

Assessment and Evaluation of the Immunization Program

1. Annual CASA reports will be generated on the Child Profile database of all children vaccinated in health department clinics and outreach programs. The target goal is that greater than 80% of children receiving immunizations through the Pacific Co. Health Department receive a complete series of vaccines (Healthy People 2010 target). A secondary goal is a continuously improving rate of complete primary vaccination.
2. The total annual number of infant vaccines of each type administered will be reported annually. The same report for reference will provide the annual number of births for the calendar period.
3. Immunization rates determined by school districts at time of entry to school will be systematically gathered and compared to health department data and to the Healthy People 2010 goal of 80% coverage. Note that care in interpreting such data will be important. Children identified as needing any 4-6 years-old-vaccines at time of school entry and receiving those vaccines as a result will be counted as being “complete.” However, children missing vaccines from the primary series – those given usually before 24 months – will be counted as “incomplete.”
4. Rates of vaccine wastage will be calculated annually with causes of the wastage reported.
5. Failures of vaccine storage will be reviewed at the time any such failure occurs with particular concern to prevent future occurrences of storage mistakes.
6. Procedures and protocols will be reviewed annually to ensure that new scientific information is appropriately incorporated.
7. The health department will consider whether data obtained by surveying parents of infants born in Pacific Co. from time to time in regards to issues surrounding infant and child vaccinations will help improve the immunization rates.
8. The health department will determine whether the following coverage data can be generated: The annual proportion of infants entered into a vaccination program through the health department or Pacific Co. private provider’s office (numerator) versus all infants born in Pacific Co. (denominator). It is recognized that some Pacific County infants are taken out of county for pediatric care and will not receive vaccines provided by the Pacific Co. Health Department. The purpose of knowing this proportion is to track whether a significant fraction of infants is completely missing any opportunity to be vaccinated. Additionally this will help characterize the extent the population of infants in Pacific Co. is dependent on local health department services and locally distributed vaccines.
9. An annual report of the Immunization Program will be generated for presentation to the Board of Health. The report will incorporate the aspects of evaluation above, as well as any other relevant assessment data that becomes available. The purpose of the report is to systematically analyze the performance of the preceding year to determine whether improvement is needed and, if so, where improvement efforts should be directed.